

RPD NEWS



DECEMBER 2012

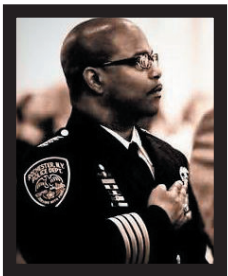
MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF:



*The real joy of the
Holiday Season
is the opportunity to say
"Thank You"
and to wish you the
very best for the
coming New Year.*

Ladies & Gentlemen,

As we bring 2012 to a close and move forward into the New Year, I want to extend to all the men and women of the Rochester Police Department, a sincere and heartfelt acknowledgement for the phenomenal work you have done this year.



As your Chief, I acknowledge that it is your efforts that determine how great this organization is, and I am relying on each of you to help ensure we continue to get even better. I'm looking forward to 2013 and the next chapter for our organization, as we continue to embrace Policing in the Spirit of Service. The members of this department have taken this philosophy to heart, and have unselfishly contributed to fostering positive perceptions of who we are to the community we serve.

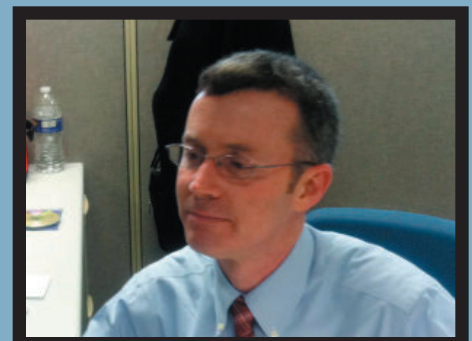
The Rochester community is fortunate to have such dedicated and caring officers, and I would like to thank you for your passion and hard work throughout this past year. May the holiday season and the New Year bring much success, good health and prosperity to you and your loved ones. Thank you, and have a joyful holiday! I am looking forward to an awesome year in 2013.

Chief James M. Sheppard

Policing in the Spirit of Service

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SERVING WITH PRIDE: OFFICER'S STORY ABOUT BEING GAY IN THE RPD

The Rochester Police Department has revamped its policies for interacting with the gay community. One reason is, more gay people live in Rochester than most cities its size. But there aren't many local cops who are out. Here's the story of an RPD Officer serving with pride.

Officer Tim Wright is an 18-year RPD veteran. Wright is one of just a handful of openly gay cops in Rochester. When offered the job, he was warned by some outside the Department to stay in the closet. "Some people approached me and suggested that it might not be safe to come out."

Tim couldn't live a lie. He told the RPD he was gay. "Smartest thing I ever did on the job. Smartest thing. The stress would have been tremendous."

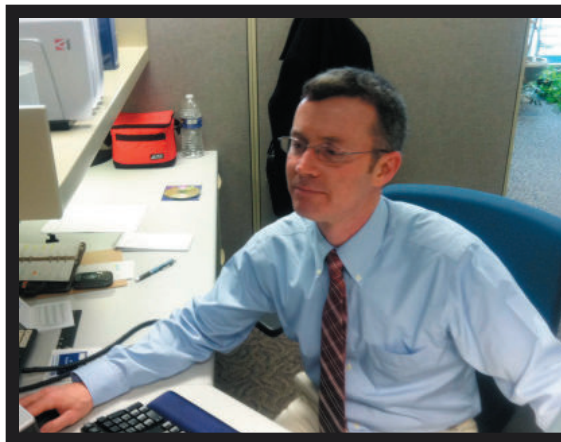
Wright wanted a career in the Navy. He met President Reagan while serving on the Battleship USS Iowa. But in the Navy, Tim would have been arrested for telling the truth. "It wasn't don't ask don't tell, it was before that, when it was not only don't ask don't tell, it was we're gonna hunt you down and find you."

One of Wright's mentors is RPD Lieutenant Frank DiPrimo. "Tim Wright's a great officer. He's fair, but he's aggressive too. And when it comes to dealing with bad guys, he normally doesn't cut them breaks. He does his thing."

DiPrimo says an officer's sexuality doesn't make a difference. "Well you know, it's policing. It has nothing

to do with your ethnic background or your race or religion or anything like that, and certainly sexual preference—who cares?"

"He was probably in the Police Department 15 years before I knew that," says RPD Chief Jim Sheppard. "It never was an issue for me, he just did his job and that's all I was ever interested in."



Chief Sheppard has made changes. Especially when it comes to how officers interact with Rochester's Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and Transgender (LGBT) community. There's more training and new rules. "In collaboration with the Gay Alliance, we looked at a number of policies throughout the country and

revised our policies to allow for gender expression. And what that means is, however someone may identify themselves, we're going to respect that. And based on their gender identification, we will adhere to their personal preference while addressing them in conversations, search policies and transportation policies."

Scott Fearing is Program Director at the Gay Alliance. He says per capita, Rochester has the largest gay population in the state. The Gay Alliance likes what Sheppard is doing. "They've done some really great education and that's really important."

Scott Fearing says local law enforcement should be doing these things because they serve a lot of gay people. "But we find if we look at our census track and the zip code range in our data base, we've got LGBT folks living in every zip code in the area."

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PAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



2ND ANNUAL PAL MADDEN VIDEO GAME FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The Rochester Police Activities League "PAL Madden 2" tournament, held at the Baden Street Digital Arts Center, was a great success!

On Monday, November 12th, the Rochester Police Activities League volunteered to team up with kids, aged 8 to 15 years old, and take part in our second annual PAL Madden Video Game Football Tournament. The event was a great success!

Special thanks to Marcus Dade for coordinating this event and Michael Brooks for his support. Thank you to the following volunteers for competing in this event: Lt. Mark Simmons, Off. Jeff Holmes, Inv. Dave Simpson, Off. Josh Lewis, Off. Mike Ciulla, Lt. Robert Wilson, Off. Sam Choates, Off. Greg Bello, Inv. Carlton Turner, Tpr. Vern Morrow (New York State Police), Lt. Lawrence Brumfield (Rochester Fire Department), Fire Fighter Tsar Parson (Rochester Fire Department).

Congratulations to our tournament winners!



RPD's Jeff Holmes & Damiere Wright
Winners of the XBOX Division!



RFD's Tsar Parson & Javion Monroe
Winners of the PS3 Division!

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RPD AND PIRATE TOY FUND TO DELIVER TOYS TO KIDS AFFECTED BY HURRICANE SANDY

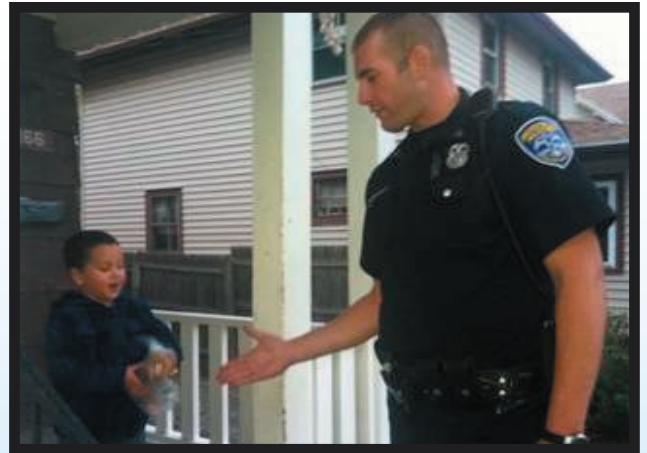


The Pirate Toy Fund is hoping to bring some holiday cheer and toys to the children of Staten Island affected by Hurricane Sandy. "The Pirate Toy Fund's board members are the most caring group of people you will ever meet. They are always there when someone is in need," said Pirate Toy Fund Board of Directors President (and RPD Investigator), Otto Harnischfeger.

Through the Staten Island Borough President's office, board members arranged for the Pirate Toy Fund to host a holiday party on Saturday, December 15th, at Vanderbilt, a party house in South Beach, Staten Island. Organizers expect as many as 500 FEMA-registered children to attend. The next day, Toy Fund members will be passing out toys in the same neighborhoods destroyed by the storm. "This is to ensure any child who could not make it to the party will not be forgotten," said Harnischfeger.

Toy Fund members will travel to Staten Island via truck and RV to deliver toys to the party. Pirate Toy Fund Founder, Gary the Happy Pirate, will perform a small holiday concert, and Board President Otto Harnischfeger will play Santa. Pirate Toy Fund mascot, "One-Eyed Jack," will also be on hand.

A number of Rochester-area companies have stepped up to help make the effort happen. Corrigan Moving Systems is providing a truck and driver to drive over 3,000 toys to the party, Johnston RV Country is providing an RV for board members, and Arby's of Rochester and the Garden Factory are providing funds to cover gas, food, and other expenses.



TOYS ON PATROL

The Toys on Patrol initiative allows Rochester police officers to stock their police car trunks with toys donated by the Pirate Toy Fund.

During the course of their shift, officers will often deliver toys to children that they find in difficult situations. The program allows officers a tremendous opportunity to spread a little cheer and brighten a youngster's day, while reinforcing that the Rochester Police Department and youth are "on the same team."



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RPD SERGEANT'S COACHES PHILOSOPHY AND COMMITMENT TO ACADEMICS

While at work, Naser Zenelovic is a Sergeant with the RPD's Major Crimes Unit. When he's not on duty, Naser is the assistant coach for the Irondequoit Screamin' Eagles Pee Wee Football team. Naser and the entire coaching staff emphasize that all kids on the team hit the books before they hit the field. The coaches push academics, and the team has a 92% average. Naser Zenelovic explained, "I have a passion for football and coaching kids. Everything starts with academics and the discipline involved to achieve good grades. If you build a strong foundation academically, opportunities in life are limitless, including athletics and the ability to play at a high level."

The Pee Wee Team members are proud of their athletic and academic achievements. "The last few years we haven't been able to make it past the first round of playoffs, but this year we actually accomplished it," said Wide Receiver Sheldon Adams. Running Back Amari Lee added, "A couple years ago we lost and I feel really good for actually making it this year."

Quarterback Grayson Zenelovic talked about the team's commitment to good grades; "I work extra hard in school. I want to make sure I can actually come out and play football, but school is my main priority."



Defensive Tackle Tyshawn Roundtree added, "I want to get into college so I can open bigger chances of going to a better future."

The Screamin' Eagles had a great season and played for the title in Philadelphia on November 25th. The team's cheerleaders will also compete for a national title in Disney World later this month.

ITALEO/RPD ITALIAN HERITAGE EVENT



On October 22nd, ITALEO (Italian American Law Enforcement Officers of Greater Rochester) and the RPD teamed up to hold *Italian Heritage and Engagement Day*.

ITALEO and the Rochester Police Department invited fourth graders from School #39 to visit the RPD to meet officers and to learn about Italian culture and heritage. Visits from costumed figures of Columbus and an Italian Carboneri Police Officer were part of the fun. The children participated in the Italian tradition "La Befana", (Italy's version of Santa Claus), where uniformed officers passed out gift bags. The students also enjoyed Italian music and food.

Thank you to all who volunteered and made this event a tremendous success!

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“MEET THE RPD”

In this section we will feature individual members of the Department, highlighting their careers and interests, both on and off the job.



OFFICER RYAN TAURIELLO

PATROL DIVISION WEST 5TH PLATOON; ASSIGNED TO DOWNTOWN

My Career:

Prior to becoming a member of the Rochester Police Department, I worked for the Canandaigua City School District as a physical education teacher and coach. I spent eight years with the district teaching grades K-12 and coaching baseball, hockey, and golf. In February of 2009, I left my teaching career behind and accepted a position with the Rochester Police Department. Upon completion of FTO, I was assigned to West 5th Platoon, where I had the opportunity to work in various PSA's throughout the West Division. Currently, I am part of West 5th platoon, and am predominantly assigned to work downtown. With downtown being the hub for the entire city, I frequently come in contact with community members from every walk of life. Because of this, officers on our platoon are well prepared to deal with people in a variety of different situations and circumstances.

Why did you want a career with the Rochester Police Department?

My interest in becoming a police officer originated with my father, who retired from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in 1989. Specifically, I chose the Rochester Police Department because my family lived in the city for many years and I wanted to help make that community a safe place to live. The feeling you get from service and giving back to this community as a police officer is unmatched in any other profession.

Tell me about a time in your career when you were most proud to be a member of the RPD?

The time I was most proud to be a member of the Rochester Police Department was on December 16, 2009. On this date I stood beside officers from multiple agencies as Officer Luca Martini and Officer Dan Brochu left Strong Hospital under their own will. The show of support to these officers and their families made me proud to be a part of the Rochester Police Department and the law enforcement community as a whole.

What are some things you like to do when you're off duty?

When I am not working I enjoy spending time with my family, hunting, and playing golf. I am a sports fan and follow the Bills, Sabres, and Cleveland Indians.

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KUDOS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Officer Thomas Lisle,

I just wanted to send a short note thanking you for the opportunity to ride along during your evening shift this past Thursday at the N. Clinton station.

As new fitness for duty consultants to the Rochester Police Department, Dr. Jerid Fisher and I believe it is very important that we increase our awareness of some of the routines and challenging situations that you and your colleagues face on a day-to-day basis. This opportunity was very helpful. What I personally gathered was a better appreciation of not only the rapid responses and judgements required for your work in the field, but the significant interpersonal flexibility required to deal effectively with the variety of complex situations and individuals at each call.

Personally, I was very impressed with your ability to not only triage the "jobs" that came rapid-fire during the shift, but with your stand out leadership qualities, your partnership with Mike, and your teamwork with the other officers in your section. Your professionalism and work ethic were exemplary, but that did not hinder your ability to act in a courteous manner, gather important nuanced information on each job, or remove the humanism required to work effectively with the public at large.

Again, I appreciate your willingness to take the time to show me a little piece of what you and the other officers of the RPD contend with on the job. I'm sure the RPD is proud to have you representing their forces on the street, and of how you serve those living within Rochester to keep their city safe.

Dr. Robert Weisman

9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE

On September 9th, 2012, the Rochester Christian Church Ministries (RCCM) hosted a 9-11 memorial service with over 200 in attendance.

The speakers were: the Gates Police Chief, Greece Police Chief, Gates Fire Chief, Monroe County Executive, Gates Supervisor, and Deputy Mayor of Rochester.

Anyone that may be interested in attending or participating in next years service, please contact the church office at 585-247-4444 or Pastor Frank, (585-335-6574) ARPALER member, former Police Officer, Fire Fighter, EMS and Military.



The service is open to all Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, EMS and Military.

RCCM church has a special ministry for Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, EMS and Military.

WE PRODUCE LEADERS

Over the years, the Rochester Police Department has developed a national reputation for excellence due in large part to the tremendous talent, commitment and innovative thinking exhibited by those who have worn the uniform of the Rochester Police Department. The "We Produce Leaders" series highlights RPD alumni who have gone on from the Department to continue serving the community in a variety of leadership roles. We hope these articles inspire current RPD members and demonstrate the many ways that the skills and professionalism gained as a RPD officer benefits the community for a lifetime.



RETIRED COMMANDER RUSS CORIDDI

Served: February 17, 1975–August 20, 2006

Russ began his career with the RPD when hired as a trainee/cadet in February 1975. He was sworn in as an officer in August 1976, and was assigned to Clinton Section 3rd Platoon. He also worked in the Tactical Unit as an officer. As an investigator, he worked Genesee Section, 3rd Platoon and then Physical Crimes (Homicide). As a sergeant, he worked Genesee Section 1st Platoon, and then Tactical. As a lieutenant, he worked Highland 3rd Platoon, Staff Duty, and then Tactical. As a captain, he worked Staff Duty and then was C/O of Lake Section, Highland Section, Clinton Section, and Special Investigation Section. As a commander, he was assigned as the C/O for the Patrol Division West.

DESCRIBE A HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR CAREER IN RPD AND HOW THAT SHAPED YOUR FUTURE:

As an investigator, I was assigned to Genesee Section, 3rd Platoon, where Lou Genovese was my lieutenant, Sergeant George Ehle was the Section Coordinator and Lou Campanozzi was my captain. Upon being promoted to the rank of sergeant, I was then assigned to Genesee 1st Platoon where my lieutenant was John Sensabaugh. I learned so much from these four men. They were icons, and their leadership was truly inspiring. They all had differing styles, but they all shared the same common threads: They had a great love for the job and were true professionals. They wore the uniform with great pride and truly cared about the men and women of the RPD and the community we served. I tried the best I could to emulate the lessons they taught me early in my career as I advanced through the ranks of the RPD.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE YOUR RETIREMENT:

I retired from the RPD on August 20, 2006, and became the program coordinator for Law Enforcement Recruit Training at MCC's Public Safety Training Center. I have tried to build upon what was already considered an outstanding academy program. My goal is to make each recruit program better than the preceding one.

ADVICE THAT YOU WOULD GIVE TO THE OFFICERS CURRENTLY ON THE JOB:

Learn from the people you respect most. Always be proud to be a member of the RPD and wear your uniform with pride. On the first day of each academy class, I ask the recruits to tell me why they want to be a police officer. As you can imagine, their responses are always idealistic and honorable. I then tell them to keep those thoughts in mind every day that they go to work for the rest of their career.

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DECEMBER SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Gary Galetta 30
Albert Iacutone 30

H. Wilson Johnson 30
Norberto Torres..... 30

A HISTORY OF ENGAGEMENT—1976



Goodman Section Christmas Party, 1976